

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int lonal Application No
PCT/IL2004/000434

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61C8/00 A61B17/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61C A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------------|
| X | US 6 500 003 B2 (NICHINONNI GIANNI) 31 December 2002 (2002-12-31) | 1,2,4-7, 10-13, 17-20 |
| Y | column 3, lines 36-54 column 4, line 50 - column 5, line 2 column 6, lines 35-66; figure 4 | 8,15,16 |
| X | EP 0 820 731 A (ZACOUTO FRED) 28 January 1998 (1998-01-28) column 1, lines 3-8 column 12, line 29 - column 13, line 12; figures 3,4 | 2,3 |
| Y | US 4 671 768 A (TON MICHAEL A) 9 June 1987 (1987-06-09) abstract; figure 1 | 8,15,16 |
| | ----- -/-- ----- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

23 September 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

29/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Roche, O

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No
/IL2004/000434

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | US 5 178 539 A (PELTIER GUY ET AL) 12 January 1993 (1993-01-12) column 3, lines 31-43; figure 1 ----- | 1 |
| A | US 6 287 115 B1 (LUSTIG L PAUL ET AL) 11 September 2001 (2001-09-11) column 5, line 54 - column 6, line 30 column 6, line 63 - column 7, line 5; figures 1,15-17,33-35 ----- | 8,18 |
| A | US 6 283 753 B1 (WILLOUGHBY ANDREW J M) 4 September 2001 (2001-09-04) abstract; figure 26B ----- | 9 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IL2004/000434

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 21-28
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

/IL2004/000434

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|----|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| US 6500003 | B2 | 20-12-2001 | WO 0195825 A1 | 20-12-2001 |
| | | | AU 6568601 A | 24-12-2001 |
| | | | EP 1299047 A1 | 09-04-2003 |
| | | | US 2001053512 A1 | 20-12-2001 |
| EP 0820731 | A | 28-01-1998 | FR 2751201 A1 | 23-01-1998 |
| | | | FR 2751202 A1 | 23-01-1998 |
| | | | AU 732244 B2 | 12-04-2001 |
| | | | AU 2873497 A | 29-01-1998 |
| | | | CA 2213063 A1 | 22-01-1998 |
| | | | DE 69722320 D1 | 03-07-2003 |
| | | | EP 0820731 A2 | 28-01-1998 |
| | | | US 2002151978 A1 | 17-10-2002 |
| US 4671768 | A | 09-06-1987 | NL 8204714 A | 02-07-1984 |
| | | | AT 23434 T | 15-11-1986 |
| | | | AU 569051 B2 | 21-01-1988 |
| | | | AU 2337484 A | 05-07-1984 |
| | | | DE 3367514 D1 | 02-01-1987 |
| | | | EP 0127662 A1 | 12-12-1984 |
| | | | JP 59502136 T | 27-12-1984 |
| | | | WO 8402264 A1 | 21-06-1984 |
| US 5178539 | A | 12-01-1993 | FR 2655534 A1 | 14-06-1991 |
| | | | CA 2044264 A1 | 13-06-1991 |
| | | | DE 69026079 D1 | 25-04-1996 |
| | | | EP 0457874 A1 | 27-11-1991 |
| | | | WO 9108714 A1 | 27-06-1991 |
| | | | JP 4503621 T | 02-07-1992 |
| US 6287115 | B1 | 11-09-2001 | AU 1347000 A | 05-06-2000 |
| | | | WO 0028914 A2 | 25-05-2000 |
| | | | US 2002147180 A1 | 10-10-2002 |
| | | | US 2002110783 A1 | 15-08-2002 |
| US 6283753 | B1 | 04-09-2001 | US 6126445 A | 03-10-2000 |
| | | | US 5873721 A | 23-02-1999 |
| | | | US 5527182 A | 18-06-1996 |
| | | | WO 9625120 A1 | 22-08-1996 |